

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 04637 310647Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 /025 W
-----039116 310650Z /14

P 310343Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
CINCPAC HONOLULU
SECSTATE WASHDC 6152

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 04637

FOR SECSTATE FOR EA/ANZ, CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

EO 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. AUSTRALIA'S DECISION NOT TO GRANT FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON AN ENTRY VISA FOR A REPORTED VISIT TO THIS AREA DEFUSED CONSIDERABLE MEDIA INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF MR NIXON COMING TO NEW ZEALAND.

2. THE EARLIER AUSTRALIAN REPORT HAD INDICATED MR NIXON WAS COMING TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND IT LED THE NEW ZEALAND PRESS ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT TO CONTACT MR NIXON'S STAFF AT SAN CLEMENTE WHO DESCRIBED IT AS "PROBABLY RUMOURS." RADIO NEW ZEALAND HAD ITS AUSTRALIAN CORRESPONDENT MAKE INQUIRIES THERE WITHOUT RESULT OTHER THAN REVEALING MR NIXON HAD APPLIED FOR AN AUSTRALIAN VISA WHICH WAS LATER DECLINED.

3. THE EUROPEAN TOUR BY CHAIRMAN HOU CONTINUED TO DOMINATE OVERSEAS NEWS AND NEWSPAPERS IN THE MAJOR CITIES COMMENTED EDITORIALY ON THE VISIT SAYING THAT WHILE HOU'S MISSION WAS MAINLY CONCERNED WITH TRADE, THE IMPACT ON RUSSIA AND ITS REACTION HAD TO BE WATCHED CAREFULLY. THE
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TENOR OF THE EDITORIALS WAS THAT IN THE GAME OF "ONEUPMANSHIP" HOU HAD STOLEN A MARCH ON THE RUSSIANS. THE POPE'S ELECTION AND SUBSEQUENT PUBLIC APPEARANCES ALSO GAINED CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE.

4. DOMESTICALLY, THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT IS STILL REFUSING TO ALLOW THE EAST TIMOR INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

LEADER, JOSE RAMOS HORTA, NOW IN THE UNITED STATES, TO MAKE A SPEAKING TOUR OF THE COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH HORTA INTENDS MAKING AN APPLICATION FOR A "STRICTLY PRIVATE TOUR." THE GOVERNMENT ALSO REFUSED TO MEET THE TRANSKEI'S ROVING AMBASSADOR, FORMER BRITISH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MR HUMPHREY BERKELEY, EVEN THOUGH HE ASKED ONLY FOR A PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

5. IN AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE COUNTRY'S APPROACH TO ABORTION IS LIKELY TO BE A MAJOR ISSUE, U.S. CONGRESSMAN, MR H.J. HYDE, WHO IS TOURING THE COUNTRY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE UNBORN CHILD, HAS BEEN RECEIVING PROMINENT MEDIA COVERAGE. HE HAS BEEN REPORTED ON BOTH TELEVISION AND IN THE NEWSPAPERS AS SAYING NEW ZEALAND'S CONTROVERSIAL ABORTION LAWS ARE EVEN BETTER THAN HIS OWN AMENDMENT WHICH TIGHTENED AMERICAN LAWS.

6. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE N.Z. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR STANLEY CALLAHAN, LEFT WELLINGTON ON AUGUST 26 FOR A TWO-WEEK VISIT TO THE U.S. AS A VOLUNTARY VISITOR. MR CALLAHAN WILL STUDY YOUTH REHABILITATION FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS IN LOS ANGELES AND BOSTON, AND WILL VISIT THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN.

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7. ON AUGUST 29 AND 30, A SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LEFT ATTRACTED OVER 40 PARTICIPANTS. THE SEMINAR WAS ORGANIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AT WELLINGTON'S VICTORIA UNIVERSITY WITH POST ASSISTANCE. SEVERAL PROMINENT LOCAL LABOR LEADERS ATTENDED A SESSION ON THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT. THREE FULBRIGHT PROFESSORS WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE PREVIOUS WEEK'S AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND AMERICAN STUDIES CONFERENCE IN CHRISTCHURCH CAME TO WELLINGTON FOR THE SEMINAR.

8. POST HAS NOMINATED AND THE AGENCY HAS APPROVED THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ELECTRICITY, MR ANDY SUMMERS, AS FY-78 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR. MR SUMMERS MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE MARCH 1979 MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON ENERGY ANALYSIS AND PLANNING.

9. MR B. BERRETT, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR AUCKLAND, AND MR JOHN BETTS, URBAN DESIGN OFFICER FOR AUCKLAND, LEFT NEW ZEALAND DURING THE WEEK TO BEGIN A TWO-WEEK PROGRAM IN THE U.S. AS VOLUNTARY VISITORS.

10. USICA INSPECTORS, MICHAEL WEYL AND TOM JOHNSON,
ARRIVED LAST MONDAY FOR AN INSPECTION OF ICA NEW ZEALAND.
THEY WILL LEAVE WELLINGTON ON THURSDAY EVENING FOR CHRIST-
CHURCH AND AUCKLAND, RETURNING TO WELLINGTON NEXT TUESDAY
BEFORE DEPARTING FOR SUVA ON SEPTEMBER 9. ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780355-0771
Format: TEL
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978081/aaaaaayh.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8eb08457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1537263
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, NZ, US
To: ICA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8eb08457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014